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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office to Examiner Mark A. Navarro, Ph.D., Art Unit 1645, Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.

On October 22, 2003

Quan L. Nguyen, Reg. No. 46,957

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 22, 2003, in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the rejections of record in view of the remarks provided below. Further, Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time to and through October 22, 2003, for the filing of this response. Authorization to charge the deposit account for the extension of time is also included herewith.

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